

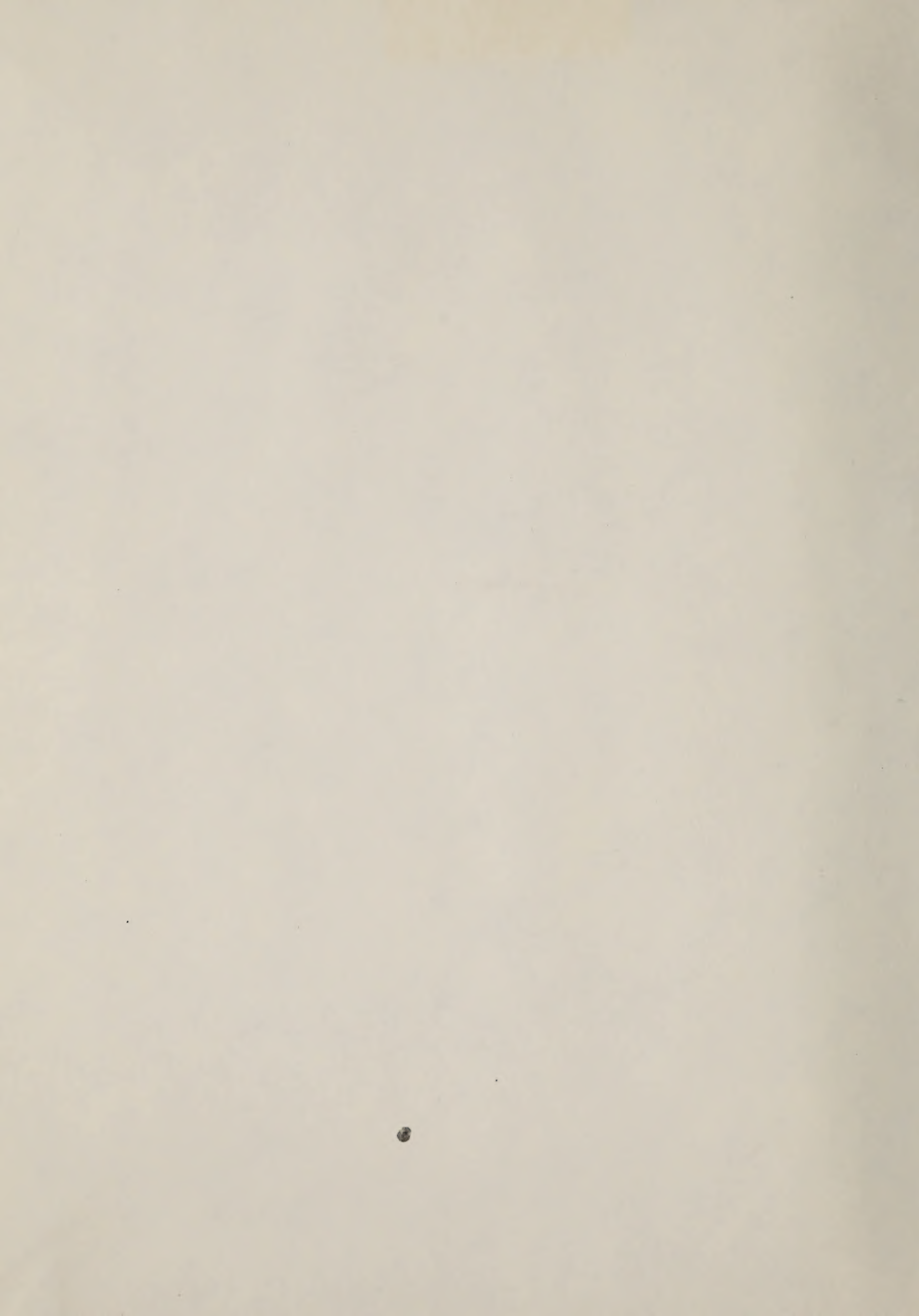
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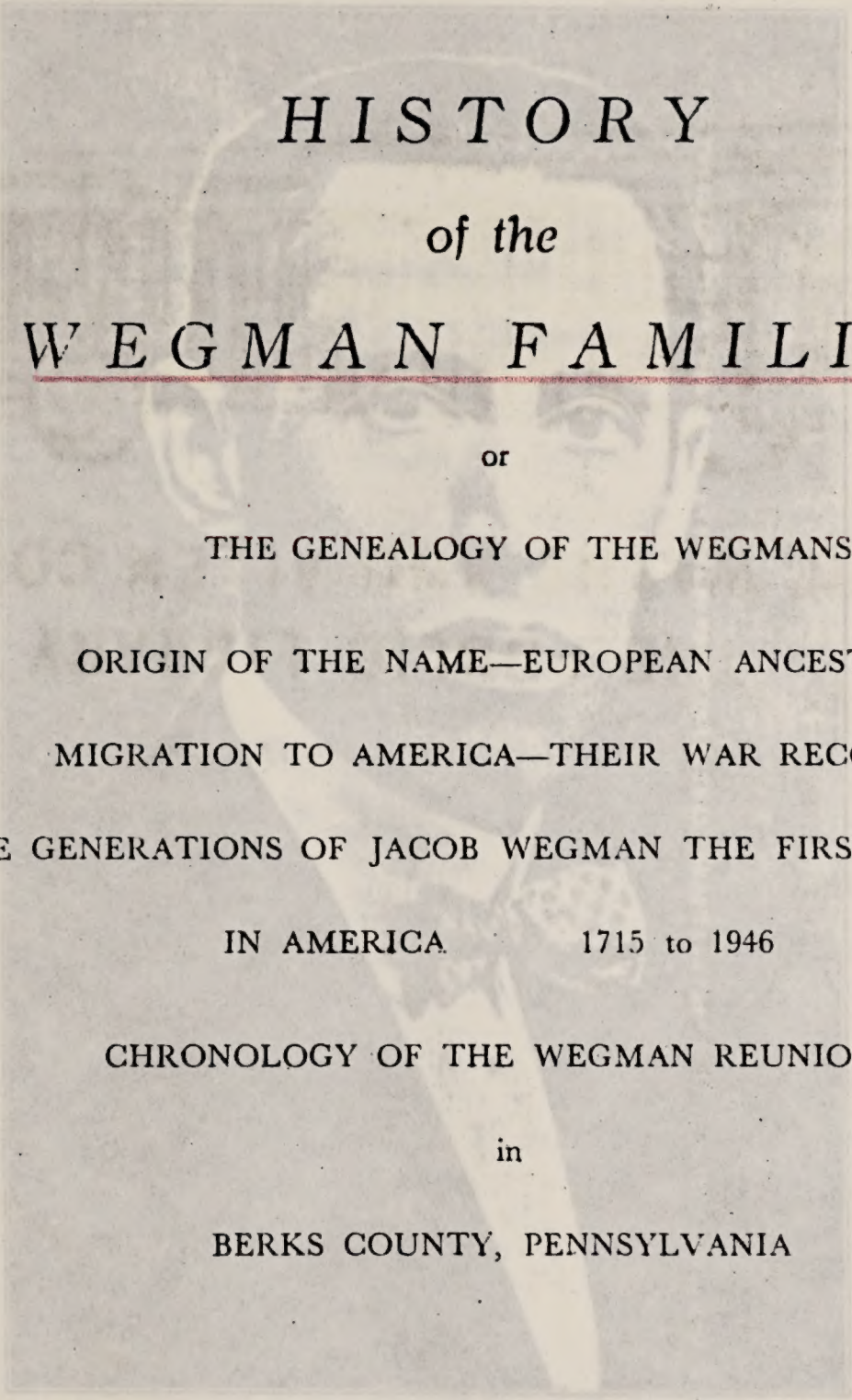
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HISTORY of the WEGMAN FAMILIES

or

THE GENEALOGY OF THE WEGMANS

ORIGIN OF THE NAME—EUROPEAN ANCESTRY

MIGRATION TO AMERICA—THEIR WAR RECORDS

THE GENERATIONS OF JACOB WEGMAN THE FIRST WEGMAN

IN AMERICA 1715 to 1946

CHRONOLOGY OF THE WEGMAN REUNIONS

in

BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

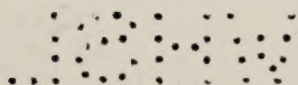
CHARLES S. WEGMAN

District Great Historian of the Great Council of the United States
of the Improved Order of Red Men

By—Charles S. Wegman

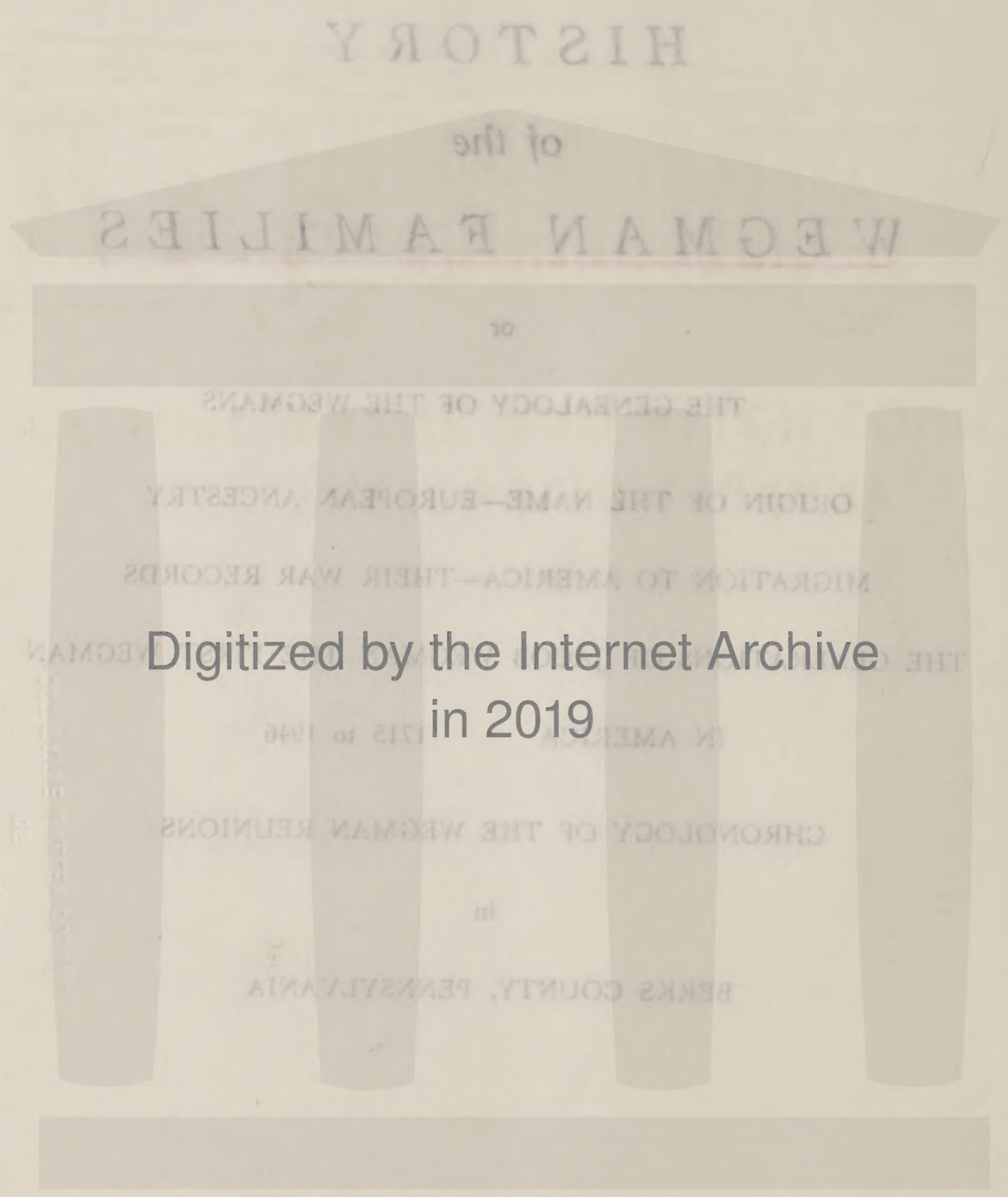
Historian and Author of this work

Wegman, Historian—Author of this work



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CHARLES S. WEGMAN

District Great Historian of the Great Council of the United States
of the Improved Order of Red Men

Wegman, Historian—Author of this work

Rec'd Mar 26-1979

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Copyright 1946

By Charles S. Wegman

Printed in the United States of America

WM. O. FLATT CO., INC.

Reading, Pa. August 1946

To all members of the
Wegman Families

I respectfully dedicate this work, the genealogy of the Wegmans, the book of our various generations, leaving it as a source of information for our future generations and in obedience to the command of God, who commandeth us to number the members of our families so that he may know all our people.

THE AUTHOR

Preface

Like the mighty oak that from a little acorn grew, so the Phoenician lost boy became the progenitor of a family now scattered over a number of nations in the world.

How very small is the little plant that springs up from the acorn, and how slowly it grows, and yet, by growing a little each day, and year by year, it finally becomes a mighty oak; and the birds sing in its branches, men and cattle repose in its shade.

Every forest and countryside has such trees, they are conspicuous for their strength, breadth and height.

In every country, in every county of our great nation you will find such families, whose progenitor, by his powerful manhood, gave to society vigorous sons and daughters, who scattered their seed and strength all over the world.

The mighty oaks are the pride of the forest, they are essential for the mountains and the valleys in respect to water, air and the intercourse of mankind.

Likewise great families are the pride of our counties which comprise our Commonwealths and our Nation, they are necessary for the various counties in respect to government, growth, dignity, wealth and power. Nature and time have been continuously creating and destroying both, but both are still living and flourishing.

A knowledge of the history of our families is indispensable, so well understood is this, that the author has spent much time and money, in placing before you this history; with no hope for monetary reward, but hoping to inspire each member of our families to greater achievements in the future.

CHARLES S. WEGMAN, Historian

The Wegman Text

ISAIAH LX: 15 and 20

15—Whereas thou has been foretaken and hated, so that no man went through Thee, I will make Thee an eternal excellency, a joy of many generations.

20—Thy sun shall no more go down, neither shall Thy moon withdraw itself, for the Lord shall be Thine everlasting light, and the days of Thy mourning shall be ended.

This text is recorded in the Book of the Prophet Isaiah pronounced by many as one of the greatest literary achievements in the human language. In order to fully appreciate its literary merit, read the entire book.

Fore-Runner

THE HERALD

THE DOVE

THE HISTORIAN

THE GENEALOGIST and THE MISSIONARY

All bear messages to humanity for the

GUIDANCE

ADVANCEMENT

ENLIGHTENMENT

CONSOLATION and ELEVATION

OF ALL MANKIND

Fore-Runner

THE DOVE

Man's feathered friends of longest standing, peoples of every clime and age have lavished care and affection upon lovely pigeons or doves.

These fine birds have been used as messengers by man for ages, even before the dawn of history, during all wars to the present day.

They were entrusted with vital messages which they carried successfully. The gentleness of these birds has made the Dove or Pigeon the appropriate symbol of peace in Christian lands for many generations.

THE DOVE AMONG THE AMERICAN INDIANS

The tradition among the American Indians has always been, that if you catch a white dove and bind to it messages of love and affection for your departed friends and set it free over their graves, it will not fold its wings or close its eyes until it has reached the Spirit Land and delivered the messages to the adored and missing friends or relatives and they further believed that at night the Great Spirit permitted the dove to return and to visit the living to sing tidings from the dead to their loved ones.

THE DOVE AS RECORDED IN THE HOLY BIBLE

GENESIS VIII

8—Also he sent forth a dove from him, to see if the waters were abated from off the face of the ground;

9—But the dove found no rest for the sole of her feet, and she returned unto him into the ark, for the waters were on the face of the whole earth; then he put forth his hand, and took her, and pulled her unto him into the ark.

10—And he stayed yet other seven days; and again he sent forth the dove out of the ark;

11—And the dove came into him in the evening; and lo, in her mouth was an olive leaf plucked off; so Noah knew that the waters were abated from off the earth.

12—And he stayed yet other seven days; and sent forth the dove; which returned not again unto him anymore.

PSALMS LIV

6—And I said, Oh that I had wings like a dove, for then would I fly away, and be at rest.

ISAIAH LIX

11—We roar all like bears, and mourn sore like doves, we look for judgment, but there is none: for salvation, but it is far off from us.

ISAIAH LX

8—Who are these that fly as a cloud, and as the doves to their windows.

JEREMIAH XLVIII

28—O ye that dwell in Moab leave the cities, and dwell in the rock, and be like the dove that maketh her nest in the sides of the Hole's mouth.

HOSEA VII

11—Ephriam also is like a silly dove without heart; they call to Egypt, they go to Assyria.

ST. MATTHEW III

16—And Jesus when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water; and lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him.

ST. MATTHEW X

16—Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves; be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.

ST. MATTHEW XXI

12—And Jesus went into the Temple of God, and cast out all of them that sold and bought in the Temple, and overthrew the tables of the money-changers, and the seats of them that sold doves.

ST. MARK I

10—And straightway coming out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him.

ST. MARK XL

15—And they came to Jerusalem; and Jesus went into the Temple, and began to cast out the that sold and bought in the Temple, and overthrew the tables of the money-changers, and the seat of them that sold doves.

ST. JOHN II

16—And said unto them that sold doves, take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise.

According to tradition the first Wegman gave an important message to the Saxon Knights. He told them of Christ and the gospel of love.

So may the Dove as a forerunner in this work deliver the messages herein set forth to all our kin of the past, present and future generations.

THE AUTHOR

(For photo of Arms see page 19.)

Various Wegman Coats-of-Arms Marshalled in One Shield

THE CREST

Is the Dove—Man's feathered friend of longest standing. These fine birds have been used as messengers by man for ages, even before the dawn of history to the present day.

THE HELMET

Is the Liberty Cap—Depicted on the front of it is the Lorraine Cross in the centre and on each side of the cross a single arrow signifying a special mark of honor for the Wegman's in eastern France, southern Germany and northern Switzerland.

THE MOTTO

An Escrol—Within which is the motto in French, *jeune homme sur foret rout*, pronounced, (*jeonne omm sure forray root*), and means in English, young man on forest road.

ARMS MARSHALLED ON THE SHIELD

The Swan—The symbol of the Phoenicians the ancestors of the first Wegman. They were the trading people in the Mediterranean Sea district from about 1000 B. C. to 500 A.D. They plowed the seas with their swanbreasted craft built of the cedars of Lebanon.

The Horse—The emblem of the Saxons the ancestors of the first Wegman's wife.

The Man on Forest Road—The principal charge on the Wegman coat-of-arms in and around southern Germany.

The Plough—The symbol of the Wegman's in eastern and southeastern France. This is one of the most useful and revolutionary inventions that we inherited from our very early ancestors.

The White "W"—Supporting the white Swiss Cross and two six pointed stars, was the emblem of the Wegman's in northern Switzerland.

THE SUPPORTS

Sheep and Shepherd—About the middle of the third century, numerous small German Tribes became united into large independent confederacies. Conspicuous among these were the Allemani of that locality which is now eastern France, southern Germany and northern Switzerland.

For many years these valleys were ruled by a German King or Kings from the house of Hohenstaufen.

The peasant farmers of these three valleys took it into their heads that they would honor these German Kings to a certain degree but would dispense with the overlords and manage their own local affairs.

About 1245 after the extinction of the house of Hohenstaufen the house of Habsburg began to supply the Kings to rule these valleys. It was about this time that the men of Schwyz burnt the

castle of New Habsburg. The men of Uri, Schwyz and Unterwalden did not mean to be ruled by a Habsburg. They formed an everlasting League and held their own among the mountains from that time onward to this day, first as free members of the empire and then as an absolutely Independent Confederation. The bright and thriving valleys and cities of Switzerland and have been a refuge or haven for free men from a score of tyrannies for more than six hundred years. Among those who found refuge in Switzerland were some of the Wegman families. THE SWISS HAVEN.

The Original Americans—The early discoverers of America found upon the shores of this continent a copper colored race of people—The Red Men of North America. In their natural state these American Indians enjoyed equality, freedom and personal liberty. They had two fundamental principals, love of kindred and love of home land. Their law was simple justice, their dealings simple honesty, their binding orders simple equality. The freedom of the American Indian inspired many Europeans to migrate to America, where they could enjoy religious freedom. Among these were some of the Wegman families. AMERICAN FREEDOM.



CHAPTER I

Origin of the Name Wegman

Wegman is an Anglo-Saxon name, "Weg" is the Anglo-Saxon for way meaning a path, course or track leading from one place to another or along which one goes; a road, passage or channel, or the like; "Man" sometimes spelled Mann, is the Anglo-Saxon for human being.

The Anglo-Saxon pronunciation for Weg is Wake and for Man it is Maun, the a as in fawn or fall. (Wake-Maun).

The English pronunciation is Weg the e as in egg, and the latter part Man or Wegman, and not Weekman as some scholars wish to pronounce it. The name is spelled the same in Anglo-saxon or English, "WEGMAN." In order to fully appreciate and truly comprehend the origin of the name it is necessary to give a synopsis of the traditions, characteristics and history of the early races of the world.

The long ages preceeding the time when men learned to write are called Prehistoric times, and the period since men began to write is known as Historic times.

The oral or verbal opinions, doctrines, customs and practices transmitted from generation to generation, by word of mouth and by example is sufficient evidence that at least two races dwelt in most of the countries of the world before the coming of the races of whom we have a written record. Our modern scholars and geologists have done much toward revealing the secrets of those early times.

Weapons and tools have been unearthed in great numbers in the ruins of ancient cities, the Cromlechs of England and the Mounds of America. Inscriptions on monuments have been deciphered and a great number of clay tablets have been found in tombs and in the ruins of these ancient cities and have been read by men who devote their lives to such studies.

History is like a coral growth, each generation builds its fabric of civilization on that which it inherits from the past, and there are few things that we enjoy in our everyday life for which we are not indebted to the past.

A knowledge of the past enables us the better to understand the duties of the present.

The greater part of our knowledge is drawn from written records, therefore, I will confine myself to those sources for the greater part of this work.

The beginning of history finds the people of the earth divided into many types or races distinguished from one another by language, color and physical features grouped into four great races.

The Caucasin or white race, which comprises most of the people of Europe and America and in ancient times nearly all the people quoted in the sacred books of the Bible. They have always taken the lead and have been foremost in the world's progress.

The white race had its origin in Caucasus, a region between the Caspian and Black Seas.

The Ethiopian or negro race inhabits central Africa and other warm lands, many are now living in the United States. This race had its origin in Ethiopia south of Egypt.

The Mongolian, or Yellow race, includes the Chinese, Japanese and the peoples of northern and eastern Asia. This race had its origin in Mongolia, a large province in central Asia.

The Red race or American Indians were discovered in 1492 in North and South America.

The division of the people into races by color began with the grandsons of Noah. The descendants of Shem, the eldest son of Noah were known as the Semites who inhabited Abyssinia, Palestine, Phoenicia, Syria and part of Arabia. This was the origin of the pure white race, the yellow race and the copper colored or red race.

The descendents of Ham, the second son of Noah were known as the Hamites who inhabited Persia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Libya and part of Arabia. This was the origin of the brown race of the hot climates, who are classed as white but are generally a little darker than the northern whites; and the black or Ethiopians, Noah's grandson Cush being the father of this race.

The descendents Japeth, the third son of Noah became the Aryan race, who inhabited parts of Italy and Greece, and later the Teutons of Germany, the Kelts of Briton and France and the Slavs of western Europe. The division into sub-races by languages began at Babel, where the Lord confounded the languages of all the earth and scattered the people abroad upon the face of the earth, as more fully recorded in the 11th Chapter of Genesis.

The white race having been the first to give us a written record of its progress and the WEGMANS being of the Caucasian race, I shall confine myself mostly to the white race for the material in compiling this history.

Man is endowed by nature with the power of speech and must make his own language. Two children put together would soon create words to express themselves, or two men of different languages would soon convey their thoughts to one another, thereby creating the third language. This was the origin of so many languages.

A language which is only spoken changes more rapidly than written language, and people who have little communication with one another will not long be of the same speech.

Man never took a greater step in the direction of civilization and culture than when he invented the means of writing his spoken language. Drawings of the things or ideas in mind, or what we call picture writing, was the first form of writing invented and it is with this that our historical period begins.

Phoenician (Phenician) history begins about 1600 B.C., they were Syrian in blood, a branch of the Canaanites and Amorites of Bible history, Hiram, King of Tyre was their King. They were the most adventurous tribe of people in early history and traveled a great deal. The Phoenicians were

great seamen because they were great traders, they had a genius for commerce and trade and furnished material and men in abundance for Solomon's Temple.

They were in Iberia (now Spain) as early as 1300 B.C., and cut a canal through the isthmus which connected Africa and Europe, which they used as a water route for their vessels to get to the western coast of Europe. This canal proved an easy barrier for the Atlantic Ocean, which rushed through this canal gradually widening the opening and permanently severed Europe and Africa; transformed this isthmus into a straight, the straight of Gibraltar, drained the Sahara dry, transformed the Mediterranean Gulf into a sea and created the Spanish Peninsula. It is to the Phoenicians that we are indebted for the Alphabet now in use throughout the civilized world, created by them 1100 B.C., at which time many had settled on the coasts of Iberia (now Spain), and southern Gaul (now France); in order to facilitate matters in carrying on their extensive trade with foreign nations or tribes.

They were the first to visit Briton (now England), about this time for the purpose of procuring tin for which Briton was then known. They were also the inventors of glass and discovered purple dye. Their homeland was a narrow strip of land bordering on the eastern end of the Mediterranean Gulf, as recorded in Bible history.

Sidon, another city of the Phoenicians was founded by Sidon, the son of Canaan, who was the great grandson of Noah. Carthage in northern Africa was founded by them about 800 B.C., Obscured by fogs and beyond the horizon of Civilization a branch of the Aryan race known as Britons were leading lives as primitive as the American Indians of a later date, dwelling in huts shaped like bee-hives.

The history of Ireland as told in ancient chronicles easily proves the Irish to be one of the oldest nations in Europe, mingling their story with those of Noah. It was known to the Greeks as Ierne, from which comes Irin, and later to the Romans as Hibernia. St. Patrick was the apostle of Ireland from 389 to 463 A.D.

Gallicia (now France), is where the Keltic-Gauls were first heard from in 340 B.C., and these were the Galatians to whom Paul addressed his epistle.

The Teutons were the German branch of the Aryan race, (the word Aryan is of Indo-European origin and means noble or lord of the soil, it is pronounced Ar-yan). They settled in central Europe, their presence was first known 330 B.C.

The peninsula of Italy has more powerfully influenced the destiny of the human race in its material aspects than any other spot upon the earth. Bethlehem of Judea and Greece have flooded the world, the one with spiritual life, and the other with intellectual splendor; but working upon a lower plane and with a coarser implement, Rome seems to have been predestined to open up the channels through which those should nourish humanity. From this fusing of Roman and Teutonic races arose two types of civilization, the Anglo-Saxon and the Latin.

The Allemanni, as the south of Germany, the north of Switzerland and the east of France was then called by the Gauls, meaning that all men held the land in common.

When the Angles and Saxons came to Briton, many also migrated along the Rhine and Rhone rivers into the territory now known as southern Germany, southeastern France and most of the present Switzerland, they were the real builders of nations.

The Anglo-Saxon nature has defined the centuries and change. A strong sense of justice, and a resolute resistance to encroachments upon personal liberty are the warp and woof of Anglo-Saxon character, yesterday, today and forever.

They have been making English history from 495 A.D. to date and American history for more than 200 years as well.

Our ancestors who settled in America brought with them from their native land a simple, just Teutonic structure of society and government, the base of which was the individual free-man.

English literature and science were born 850 A.D., and the Knights started to organize themselves into armed societies. On Easter Day 1215 A.D., 2,000 Knights were present at the signing of the Magna Charta, (pronounced Magna Kar ta).

Wicliffe translated the Bible into simple Saxon English in 1390 A.D., and Bunyan gave to the world his allegory, Pilgrim's Progress in the Saxon language in 1672 A.D.

Religion and money are two things upon which the fate of nations has oftenest hung.

King James VI, of Scotland, and as King James I, of England was a very headstrong and ignorant ruler, he set to work to carry out his own views and considered himself the head of a sort of self created religion, which was neither Catholic nor Protestant, but according to his own or personal views and belief.

When the Puritans brought to him a petition signed by 800 clergymen, praying that they be not compelled to wear the surplice, (an outer gown), nor make the sign of the cross at baptism, he said they were vipers, and if they did not submit to the authority of the bishops in such matters, they should be harried out of the land.

In the persecutions implied by this threat, a large number of Puritans escaped to Holland with their families, and thence came that band of heroic men and women on the Mayflower, landing at a point on the American coast, which they called Plymouth in 1620.

A few Englishmen had in 1607 settled in Jamestown, Virginia, and these two groups or early settlements contained the germ of the future, United States of America.

About 1511 Martin Luther commenced his great work of translating the Holy Scriptures from Latin to German, which is known as the German Reformation. The adherents of the Reformation in Germany and France were called Huguenots, many of them emigrated to America to escape the religious persecutions prevailing at that time—and thence came these sturdy freedom lov-

ing Teutons from the Rhine and Rhone Valleys to America and energized the seed of Freedom sown by the Puritans. It appears that of all the races mentioned the Anglo-Saxon, a few of the Goths and the Jutes of the Teutonic race were the strongest and most robust, they invaded other lands, but there never was much transfusion or changing of their habits and customs even in inter-marriage. The Anglo-Saxons remained steadfast to their customs, language, etc., and in most cases assimilated the races they contacted instead of being absorbed.

They are in reality the founders or fathers of the German, the Old English and Scandinavian languages as they were before the tide of languages ebbed and flowed.

With all the inroads the German and English languages are still Saxon at the core today.

I will here however remark that had the scheme of Charlemagne (pronounced in French Shar-le-man, in Latin Car-olus-magnus, and means in English Charles the Great), taken deep root, the fate of Germany and England might have been different today and these countries would also be in the Latin column.

Charlemagne was King of the Franks and the Romans, he tried hard to extend his powers and swing all the European countries under his rule. To him a map of Europe was his empire about 800 A.D.

He was the ruler or temporal sovereign with his headquarters at Aix-la-Chapelle. The Pope was the Spiritual sovereign with headquarters at Rome and bowed before this Emporer, it was the first all embracing scheme of empire, it was a dual supremacy, which lasted for some time, it was the direct cause for the translation of the Bible by Wichliffe in England, the German Reformation by Luther and the 30 Year's War, but which ended with the treaty of Westphalia in 1648 A.D., and made secure the religious freedom these two nations desired to enjoy.

For thousands of years from the earliest dawn of history the Hamitic and Semitic peoples had been the leaders of human progress up to the birth of Christ.

It requires a vast extent of territory to sustain a people living by the chase or hunt and upon herds and flocks; hence the early struggle for more land, just as today we see nations struggle for the acquisition of more land. This was the direct cause for the many early invasions and migrations.

However, one group of these Semitic people, the Phoenicians, from Phoenicia, a strip of land along the coast but a few miles wide and one hundred and fifty miles in length, between the Lebanon mountains and the Mediterranean Sea turned to more constructive endeavors upon the stage of life.

Instead of invading other lands and subduing the people, they made friendly visits and established trading posts.

With their Swan-breasted craft built of the cedars of Lebanon, they plowed the seas; they brought tin from Briton, silver and gold from Spain, birds from the Canary Islands, pearls and ivory from India, and fine linen from Egypt.

They circumnavigated Africa starting from the Gulf of Suez traveling south they came back through the Mediterranean to the Nile delta, which took them nearly three years. Each year they landed, sowed and harvested a crop of wheat before going on.

Tyre and Sidon were their largest home cities, for more information about these interesting people and their trade read the 27th chapter of Ezekiel. At many of their trading posts the Phoenicians founded colonies, one of these, Carthage in northern Africa outgrew the mother country.

These Phoenician traders kept their accounts on Egyptian papyrus, from which comes our word paper, using an Alphabet of twenty-two letters. They carried this alphabet to Greece and the Greeks gave it to the Romans and through these channels our present alphabet was derived.

Some of the most recent sources of knowledge to verify the Phoenician Alphabet existed have been found on tombs.

Upon a sarcophagus at Marseilles, France, the oldest and second largest city in France, located on the southern coast near the mouth of the Rhone River, was found as late as 1845, an inscription of 21 lines in Phoenician language, made 1,000 B.C., at which time they had already established a trading post at this place.

The Phoenicians were first known in Persia, from whence they came and settled along the coast of the Mediterranean.

About 200 A.D., the Indo-European people commenced to take the lead, and from that day to the present time the Japhetic or Indo-European branch of the caucasian race has been master of the civilization of the world.

THUS HAS BEEN GIVEN THE EVIDENCE, THAT THE PHOENICIANS AND THE ANGLO-SAXONS HAVE MADE THE GREATEST CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE WORLD'S CIVILIZATION, AND AMONG THESE CONSTRUCTIVE AND PROGRESSIVE ENVIRONMENTS ORIGINATED THE NAME—"WEGMAN".

In the year 930 A.D., the Saxon King Henry I, having been impressed with Knighthood of former days, invited all ablebodied young men to serve the empire in a new and peculiar way. They must be men of honor and truth; they must be devoted and loyal in battle; they must be gentle and courteous and brave, and faithful to the Church.

The men who could take these oaths and make these pledges were called Knights or Knechts, servants of the King.

Thus was born or created the real order of Knighthood, which quickly spread over Europe, and which took an early part in the Crusades to the Holy Land and became the Knights Templar.

These Knights were used to protect and defend the borders of the European countries as well as for interior duty.

According to the records in the University of Strasbourg, France, founded in 1621 A.D., of Chretien de Troies wherein this Frenchman, quotes the New Knight from the East or Swan-Knight.

Later a Bavarian writer called him Tohengrin the Swan-Knight, in his story of the Opera; of Godfrey's epic poems about King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table, written in 1356 A.D., wherein the new Knight is quoted as the famous Swan-Knight; and the genealogical records in the University of Friedburg, Baden, Germany, founded in 1455 A.D., and the records in the Library at Basel, Switzerland, founded in 1460 A.D., a party of Saxon Knights while stationed near the southern coast of France in the Rhone River Valley near Marseilles, found a strong healthy young Phoenician on the country or forest road who claimed that he was lost by having strayed too far away from the coast in quest of adventure, he was down-hearted, lonely and felt betrayed. That there were Phoenicians in the southwestern part of France is fully confirmed by records and by many historians who agree that the Hellenic Tribes or their descendents later founded the town of Marseilles on the site of an earlier Phoenician Colony. The Knights made him comfortable and retained him in their company and upon learning that he was worthy, a good christian and favorably impressed with Knighthood, they inducted him into the service as their religious advisor, and because they could not pronounce his real name, and because they had found him on the road or way they named him in Anglo Saxon—WEGMAN.

This is further confirmed by a German Professor from near Wurttemberg, who had taught in various Universities, but who owing to failing health came to Pennsylvania about 1890. His name was J. P. Straub, his health improved a great deal in our State in a short time, he liked the climate and remained the rest of his life.

He started to sell coffee wholesale and became one of the best traveling coffee salesman in Pennsylvania.

He also taught German and Genealogy at his leisure and was well liked by the people he contacted.

He worked out of Philadelphia, for Scull & Company, the writer first met him while working for Lender & Company, wholesale and retail Grocers, 9th and Washington Streets, Reading, and immediately a close friendship developed.

We were together frequently from 1901 to 1912, and upon our first introduction and many times after that our conversation drifted to the origin of the name WEGMAN, at which times he would relate the story of the lost young man found by the Knights or Knechts on the forest road between the Rhine and Rhone Rivers.

Mr. Straub wrote many letters of inquiry relative to the Wegmans, to various parts of Europe for the writer and thereby obtained much valuable and authentic information for our family history.

This was no unusual way for the origin of a name, because in those times all names were selected along the same lines that the American Indians used when discovered.

In early times names were based upon some event happening at the time of birth, or upon some personal characteristics of the young child. Fact until the 10th century people had no family or surnames, but were identified by a given name, such as; John, Mary, Moses, Rebecca, etc., or a name

taken from their trade, place of birth, physical features, or the Saint upon whose feast day they were born.

In the 10th century the Knights and the Nobility began to call themselves after their ancestral estates, and gradually the lower classes took up this custom of family names.

These names were passed on from father to son, and during the 12th and 13th centuries it became prevalent to adopt the name of a trade. Smith was one of the most common surnames because the workers of different trades were called smiths and took it for their family name.

"It was in the 10th century that the name WEGMAN was born".

For another example, Johannes Rothermel was a brave soldier in the early German Wars and so frequently dyed his arm in the blood of his enemies that his comrades designated him as, De Roth Ermel (meaning red sleeve), from which the name Rothermel comes.

Thus has been given the proof of how, when and where the first WEGMAN was ushered into the world and upon the stage of life.



*Various Wegman Coats-of-Arms
Marshalled on One Shield*



(For description see pages 9 and 10)

European Ancestry of the Wegmans and Migrations to America

About 960 A.D., this original Wegman married a Saxon girl, supposed to have been a sister to one of his companion Knights, and settled at the foot of the Schwarz Wald, or black hills, near the Rhine River in the territory then known by the French as *Allemagne*, or *Allemani* in the district which later and now is known as Baden, Germany.

This territory including the Rhine Valley, the Rhone Valley and the strip of land between the two valleys from the North Sea to the Meditterrean Sea has always been and is today one of the most fertile spots in France and Germany.

Besides being a rich agricultural district, petroleum, potash, iron and coal are abundant in the Alsace-Lorraine district which has therefore been the seat of trouble for many cetnuries among European Nations.

As before stated Charlemagne ruled or had nearly all of Europe in his Empire. He died in 814 A.D., and his son Louis became the ruler of this great Empire. Louis died in 843 A.D., and his three sons made the famous treaty of Verdun in 843 A.D., by which the great empire of their grandfather was broken into three grand divisions.

Charles, received the western section, which later became France; Louis, received the eastern section or the greater part of that district which later became Germany and Austria; Lothair, received the central section, the Rhine and Rhone River Valleys section, which as before stated run through the heart of Europe from the North Sea to the Mediterranean Sea. Lothair, from which comes Lorraine, was the eldest of the three brothers and retained the title of Emporer.

This act in history is one version of the origin of the Lorraine Cross.

The Patriarchal Cross or doubled barred Patriarchal Cross some times called the Jerusalem Cross, but by the French the Lorraine Cross. This Cross appeared upon early Greek Coins with two transoms and there are more crosses of this fashion.

The upper bar is merely the board or title placed by Pilate's order above the head of our Saviour, in Hebrew, Greek and Latin.

It now means this—Its pale crossed by two transverse bars represents the work of Redemption performed both for the Jews and for the Gentiles. The foot of the Lorraine Cross most times terminates in Acanthus Leaves. The Palm is synonymous with the Cross, in shape of cross, and means victory. The double bar Cross is used by Cardinals and Archbishops. Godfrey de Bouillion, Duke of Lorraine, being chosen by the Crusaders, the first Christian King of Jerusalem, and he having been one of the leaders in the early Crusades, adopted this Cross, hence it is called the Lorraine Cross, also sometimes the Jerusalem Cross.

It was adopted by the Order of the Knights Templars, which was established in 1119 A. D., (Extracts from the work of Rev. William Wood Seymour, *The Cross—In Tradition—History & Art*) fully prove the history of the Lorraine Cross.

By rule of Louis's three sons, Italy, France and Germany were roughly separated and a little later the greater part of this central section became parts of France, Germany, Italy and Switzerland. Although as before stated this has always been a contested strip of land between these two rivers, the peace of Westphalia in 1648 gave the Germans entire religious freedom, but ceded Alsace to France.

In the beginning of the 1800 Alsace-Lorraine were again contested but by Napoleon's defeat at Waterloo in 1815 by treaty it remained with France. At the Treaty of Peace signed at Paris, May 10, 1871, Alsace-Lorraine passed to Germany and at the end of World War (I) in 1918 they were regained by France.

However the original WEGMAN had settled a little east of the Rhine River or just a little out of the extreme danger zone and contented himself by conducting vineyards and raising hogs, also always had a number of splendid horses.

As before stated the German race even in inter-marriage was not easily absorbed for it is recorded that the early descendents of this first union had the statue of the husky Saxons but the heavy black beards of the Phoenicians, and the writer remembers that the grand-parents of the present generation still had the coal black beard. Although this original Wegman had settled a little east of Rhine River in the Black Hill district, many of his descendents spread northward into Alsace-Lorraine, southward into Switzerland and westward into France.

Nearly all the European Wegman's according to the information obtained by the writers research work on Wegman Genealogy could speak both German and French.

The name Wegman is mentioned in a number of records preserved in the Universities in southern Germany, eastern France and in Switzerland. According to these records several members of the family obtained Noble Rank and others figured prominently in the Military Service. This is fully confirmed by Professor Straub, quoted in Chapter I, and another, the late Philip Bissinger, who was a professor in history and genealogy and a fairly good musician. Mr. Bissinger came to America and settled in Reading, where he last was very active as President of the Reading Brewing Company. The writer and Mr. Bissinger were personal friends from 1902 to the time of Mr. Bissinger's death in 1926.

These two German scholars obtained a large amount of information for the writer by communicating with the officials of the various Universities in Europe and by doing some research work along those lines while touring in Europe on vacation trips.

Susanna Wegman of Fraunfeld, Switzerland, a student of Genealogy has given me very much information about the Wegman's in Europe and is still searching for more to date.

She corresponds regular with the writer and and with her sister in Auburn, New York. These three have furnished the writer with a description of the various Wegman Coats-of-Arms as recorded on pages 9 and 10, and as per cut on page 19, at beginning of this chapter.

In this Rhine Valley dwelt the Wegmans from generation to generation, but as their number increased some migrated to other sections of Europe, whereupon many changed the spelling and pronunciation of the name. The name WEGMAN was finally spelled in many different ways, apparently according to what nationalities were contacted. The name being spelled as such people pronounced it, often in a broken or foreign accent to the original name.

I have personally had about 35 years business, fraternal and political contact with many nationalities and find that each choose to pronounce the name different and finally spell it as it sounds by their way of pronouncing the same.

For example and as a guide to other genealogists, I will here note some of those who took the oath from 1727 to 1775 and later arrivals from 1785 to about 1808 at the Port of Philadelphia, Pa. from Europe, with varied names similar to the name Wegman. It must however be understood that even though these names originate from the name Wegman, they are now so much changed that if fully defined they mean something quite different than Wegman means.

For example, modern English has one word for each animal, and another word for the flesh of each animal, because the Saxons who tended the animals named them in their own tongue, but when the Normans and the French mingled with the Saxons and ate some of these meats from such animals, they named them in the English language and we call the meats of the Ox, Steer, Cow and Bull, "Beef"; of the Calf, "Veal"; of the Sheep, "Mutton"; of the Pig, "Pork", "Ham" and "Bacon" of the Hare or Rabbit, "Venison".

The Wegmans that drifted to Poland or near the Polish border called themselves or spelled the name Weglinski. A few of these families are now in Berks County.

Those who located in northern Germany, changed their name to Wigman and in central Germany Wagman, while those who went to England finally changed their name to Weyman. Descendants of all these families are now located in Berks County.

As recorded in the Pennsylvania Archives, 2nd Series, Volume 17, pages 121 and 236; John Philip Wageman, sailed on the Ship Harle of London, Ralph Harle, master, from Rotterdam, September 1, 1736; his name in the original list was spelled Philip Weygamunt and his age was 23 years. As recorded on page 19, Johannes Weightman, sailed from Rotterdam, September 15, 1729, on the Ship Allen, James Craigie, master, his name in the original list was spelled Wichtman.

As per pages 48, 52, 127, 170, 250, 397 and 501, Leonard Weyer, sailed from Rotterdam in the Ship Johnson of London, with David Crochet, as master, September 19, 1732.

On pages 48, 49 and 367 we find Paulus Wegerlin, sailed on the Ship Johnson from Rotterdam, David Crochet, master, September 19, 1732.

On page 63 we find that Martin Weybrecht, sailed from Rotterdam on the Ship Loyal Judith of London, Robert Turpin, master, September 25, 1732, his name in the original list was spelled, Hans Martin Waybright.

On page 72 is recorded that Bernhard Weymer, sailed from Rotterdam on the Ship Pink, John and William of Sunderland, Constable Tymperon, master, October 17, 1732, his name in the original list is spelled Veymert.

Page 83 records that Matthias Weidman sailed from Rotterdam on the Ship Elizabeth, Edward Lee, master, August 27, 1733, his name in some lists is spelled Whiteman.

On pages 223 etc., we find that John George Weyman sailed from Rotterdam on the Ship Snow Thane, William Weems, master, November 7, 1741, his age was 37 years and his name was also spelled Wightman and Whiteman.

On page 229 is recorded that Johan George Wayman sailed from Rotterdam on the Ship Loyal Judith, James Cowie, captain, September 3, 1742, his name in the original lists was spelled Han Yarach Wayman and some times Weiman, his age was 42 years.

Pages 251 and 252 record that Johannes Waymer sailed from Rotterdam on the Ship Phoenix, William Wilson, captain, October 20, 1744, and that Philip Waghner sailed from Rotterdam, November 2, 1744.

On pages 257 and 315 is recorded that Tobias Wagheman sailed from Rotterdam on the Ship, Bilander Vernon, Thomas Ricke, master, August 1, 1747.

As per pages 17 and 315 Michael Wagenmann sailed from Rotterdam on the Ship, Anderson, Hugh Campbell, captain, from Cowes England, August 25, 1750.

As recorded on page 327, John Henrich Waydeman sailed from Rotterdam in the Ship Sandwich, Captain Haxelwood in charge, from Cowes, England, where the ship qualified Nov. 30, 1750.

On page 393 is recorded that Valentine Wegmeyer sailed from Hamburg, September 19, 1753.

As per page 416, Henry Andreas Wigman, sometimes spelled Wiggman, sailed from Hamburg in the Ship, Good Hope, John Trump, captain, which qualified last from Cowes, England Oct. 1, 1753.

On page 472 is recorded that Johan Frederick Weyerer sailed from Rotterdam and last from Cowes on the Ship, Chance, Charles Smith, master, September 9, 1765, he is listed as an Apothicaire.

The children of these first Wagamans, Wagermans, Wigmans, etc., took an active part in the development of our State of Pennsylvania. For as recorded in the Pennsylvania Archives, 3rd Series, Volume 2, page 94, Martin Wagaman was the owner of large tracts of land in Chester County, near the mouth of French Creek, where he was paying tax for same in 1765. And according to Volume 18, page 188, Peter Wagaman was taxed in Albany Township, Berks County, Pa., in 1779.

As recorded in Volume 13, page 334, Rebecca Wagaman was paying a large amount of tax in Northampton Township, Bucks County, Pa., in 1783.

Volume 20, page 10 quotes Casper Wagerman paying land tax in Antrim Township, Cumberland County, Pa., in 1778.

Volume 23, page 665 credits Jacob Wagerman with serving as a 6th class private, and in Volume 20, page 10, Philip Wagerman as a 3rd class private in the Cumberland County Militia, with Samuel Rogers as captain, during the Revolutionary War.

According to Volume 25, page 350 and Volume 26, pages 203, 204 and 205, Joachim Wigman was granted warrants; July 12, 1793 for 400 acres of land in Cumberland County; March 5, 1789, for 200 acres in Northampton County, May 24, 1792 for 400 acres in Northampton County and December 10, 1792, for 400 acres in Northampton County, Pennsylvania.

According to the Archives others by the name of Weichman, Weiman, Wiegman and Wiewman sailed for America between 1800 and 1835.

Most of the immigrants to Pennsylvania came from Germany, France and Switzerland, by way of the Rhine Valley to Rotterdam, Holland, through the mouth of the Rhine River to the North Sea, thence through the Strait of Dover, so that many of the Ships stopped at Cowes, England. thence sailed through the English Channel to the the Atlantic Ocean, and landed at the Port at Philadelphia.

I have consulted many people who devote their lives to the study of genealogy and the origin of names, I have had access to many books which treat on this subject and with my personal activities along these lines, all point to the fact that the various names quoted above all originate from the name WEGMAN.

Two very good reasons for the differences in the spelling of the name are: first, in the olden days spelling was precarious, English clerks registering German Immigrants spelled these names phonetically or as it sounded to them when they heard it pronounced, and, second: as many of the Wegmans spread to other parts of Europe they spelled the name according to what it meant in the language in which they located. For example the Wegmans in Poland changed their name to Weglinski; the Kleins that went to England changed their name to Small or Little; and right here in Berks County many of the Hochs changed their name to High and the name Holtz has been changed by many to Wood, etc. I will now however leave these interesting and active people with the varied spelling of the name and will confine myself clearly to those who retained the original spelling of the name WEGMAN.

The Original Wegman Coat-of-Arms

Used by all who retained the original spelling of the name WEGMAN. Representing especially the Wegman's of Berks County and Eastern Pennsylvania.



(Description on page 26)

Description of the Original Wegman Coat-of-Arms

THE CREST

The Dove representing the herald or messenger signifying that the first Wegman on the forest road carried an important message to the Rhone and the Rhine Valleys.

THE HELMET

The Liberty Cap, the Lorraine Cross and the Arrows signifying a special mark of honor for the Wegmans.

THE MOTTO

In French, jeune homme sur foret route, (meaning in English), Young Man on Forest Road.

THE SHIELD

The Swan the symbol of the Pheonicians the Fraternal Ancestors of the first Wegman,
The Horse the emblem of the Saxons the Maternal Ancestors of the first Wegman,
The Man on the forest road, the chief charge on the Coat-of-Arms.

THE SUPPORTS

Inner supports the Cedar of the Lebanon Mountains in Phoenicia, the birth place of the first Wegman, the large fir from the Black Hills in southern Germany, where the first Wegman settled after marriage.

Outer supports the sheep, and shepherd and wild game in Switzerland, THE SWISS HAVEN, where some of the Wegman's went to escape from the cruel rulers and there found refuge.

The American Indians and the Eagle, AMERICAN FREEDOM where many of the Wegmans' migrated in search of religious freedom.

These outer supports were added later and further indicate that at that time there were Wegmans in both Switzerland and in America, and that many had intermarried with the Swiss and some with the American Indian.

The Wegmans' of eastern Pennsylvania all have about 18 per cent Indian blood in their veins.

(For full description of the various Wegman Coats-of-Arms, see pages 9 and 10.)

CHAPTER III

The First Wegmans in America

The first Wegman to come to the United States according to the many records consulted in the various eastern states of our Union was Jacob Wegman, in some lists spelled, Wegmann, and Wagman.

As recorded in the Pennsylvania Archives, 2nd Series, Volume 17, pages 234 and 236; Jacob Wegmann sailed from Rotterdam on the Ship Francis and Elizabeth, with George North as master.

The Ship qualified at Rotterdam, August 30, 1743, Wegman's age at the time of sailing was 28 years.

Jacob Wegman was the Great-Great-Great-Great-Great Grand Father to the compiler of this history and according to the family records of the descendents of Ulrich Wegman, a brother of Jacob Wegman, recently received by the writer from Susanna Wegman, Frauenfeld, Switzerland and from her sister Caroline Fruend, Auburn, New York, who came to America in 1925, Jacob Wegman lived in Strassburg, (as the Germans spell the word (or Strasbourg, (as the French spell the word), Alsace, France, in his boyhood days; but as a young man he later lived in Metz, Lorraine, France, from whence he came to America. He settled in Germantown now a part of Philadelphia, where he is listed on the tax records of Philadelphia County in 1750. He had 5 children, 3 boys and 2 girls, the writer has not been able to definitely obtain the names of the girls, but are supposed to have been Sarah and Mary; the names of the boys were Christopher, Philip and Frederick as recorded in the Pennsylvania Archives.

In the 3rd Series, Volume 18, page 252, of the Archives we find that Philip Wagman paid 3 shillings tax in Maxxatawny Township, Berks Co., Pa., in 1779, and is listed as a single freeman.

Frederick Wegman, Estate, as noted in Volume 16, page 98, Pennsylvania Archives was taxed in Germantown, Philadelphia County in 1782.

Christopher Wegman was the most active of these boys, he owned valuable property, was a merchant, a tavern keeper and an Army Officer during his life time.

Pennsylvania Records, Volume 14, page 665, shows that Christopher Wegman paid 69 pounds tax in Northern Liberties, West Part, Philadelphia County in 1769, 1774 and 1779.

In Volume 15, page 105, he is quoted as paying 17 pounds and 5 shillings on the same properties for the years 1779 and 1780.

On page 304 of the Pennsylvania Records is noted that John Wagner, who was a brother-in-law to Christopher Wegman. Sr., and a butcher by trade, paid 27 pounds and 10 shillings tax on property valued at 10,000 pounds at the rate of 5 shillings and 6 pence on the hundred for the Christopher Wegman Estate, located in Mulberry Ward, West Part, City of Philadelphia, in the latter part of 1780 and in 1781.

On page 501 is shown that Christopher Wegman, Jr. paid 128 pounds, 8 shillings and 6 pence on property valued at 7,135 pounds in Northern Liberties, West Part, Philadelphia County, in 1780.

Page 661 shows John Wagner paying 2 pounds, 13 shillings and 8 pence, on the Wegman Estate in Mulberry Ward, Philadelphia, in 1781.

Volume 16, pages 198 and 462 records taxes paid for the properties before mentioned of 6 pounds, 16 shillings and 1 penny for each year of 1781, 1782 and 1783.

According to Volume 15, page 637, they were also paying tax on property located in Mulberry Ward, East Part in 1779, where F. A. Muhlenberg and Christopher Wegman, merchants, conducted a business under the firm name Muhlenberg and Wegman.

Volume 17, pages 421 and 891 shows Christopher Wegman paying tax on property, horses and cattle in Lebanon Township, Lancaster County in 1773 to 1782. Most of Lebanon County was at that time a part of Lancaster County.

I find according to Colonial Records of Pennsylvania and records in various historical societies that Christopher Wegman besides his Philadelphia activities, also conducted a tavern in the Quittapahilla District, eastern Lebanon Township, Lancaster County, Pa., in 1760. The location of his tavern was within the present limits of the city of Lebanon. Wegman took an active part in the promotion of educational facilities by fostering the establishment of public schools.

The first free public school in America started near his tavern, the scheme was frequently discussed in the public houses or business places in that vicinity before it was accomplished, but it can be said that this was the progenitor of the common school system in America.

This is more fully confirmed by a half page article published in the Reading Eagle, November 1, 1931, titled, FIRST FREE PUBLIC SCHOOL IN AMERICA STARTED NEAR BERKS THROUGH LOTTERY, Wegman's Tavern is mentioned in reference to the discussion of the free school system about 1760, as follows, quoted in part: the Frenchman, Raboteau's free school scheme was discussed for some time—for days and probably weeks. The discussion carried on at various places wherever persons congregated—at the tavern—at the Shoemakers and at religious gatherings on Sunday. At the smithy of Christian Gish the talk was of the proposed charity school; at the public house of Philip Greenwald and at the tavern kept by Christopher Wegman—the conversation centered on the same theme. It was talked about in the 50 or more log houses that constituted the little village that today is the city of Lebanon.

A complete copy of this article is filed in the writers private library as Volume 1, page 259.

On July 4, 1776, a meeting was held at Lancaster to choose 2 Brigadier Generals for Pennsylvania. 53 Battalions were represented, Lieutenant Colonel, Christopher Wegman of the 9th Battalion from Lancaster County and Captain Henry Spohn from the 3rd Battalion of Berks County, were prominent Army officers at this meeting. Captain Henry Spohn was a maternal ancestor of the compiler of this work.

Volume 5, of the 5th Series of the Pennsylvania Archives, fully confirms that Christopher Wegman was the Lieutenant Colonel of the 9th Battalion of Lancaster County during the greater part of the Revolutionary War and also gives the names of all the other officers of this Battalion.

He was wounded a number of times so that his health started to fail and according to Volume 1, page 150, of the 6th Series of the Archives he is relieved from field service, but is with Company "C" 2nd Battalion, Philadelphia Troop in 1779 and 1780, drilling that outfit into shape for service in the field.

On page 163 of this same Series he is reported failing in health and past the age to serve in the military in the latter part of 1780, and according to Court Records died in 1781, after which time his son Christopher Wegman, Jr. and his son-in-law John Wagner continued the Estate.

The writer has searched the records in the Recorder of Deeds Office in Philadelphia, which further proves that Christopher Wegman, Sr., in his time possessed a large amount of real estate.

However as the City of Philadelphia developed the heirs sold off small parcels occasionally for building lots, which accounts for the graduation of the taxes from time to time as noted in the Archives. Christopher Wegman, Jr., died a few years after his father. Philip Wegman an unmarried brother to Christopher Wegman, Sr., died about 1784 and Frederick another brother to Christopher, Sr., died at Valley Forge from a wound received at the battle of Germantown in October 1777. So that in 1790 we find only 6 Wegmans in the United States, Margaret Wegman, widow of Christopher Wegman, Jr. and her 5 children from whom descend nearly all the Wegmans now in this Country.

Some of the descendents now living in the City of Philadelphia, claim that Margaret quoted in the 1790 census was the widow of Frederick Wegman who died at Valley Forge, with 3 of her children, living at home and a son John, living in Schuylkill County near the forks of the Schuylkill River, where during the Revolutionary War in 1780, he and his children were cruelly murdered by the Indians and the oldest daughter carried off.

There have therefore been two versions as to the Philadelphia, Margaret Wegman for many years, but the writer has made many searches in the past 25 years and has found enough to confirm the following as the true and correct version.

A research made by the writer in September of 1938, reveals the following: The First Census of the United States of America made in 1790 shows that, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, Rhode Island and Georgia had no Wegmans; that Maryland had a family listed by the name of Marthew Wegfield, in Prince George County, with 9 in the family and 3 slaves; that Virginia had a family by the name of Sarah Wegington, in Stafford County, with 3 in the family; that Massachusetts had a family by the name of William Wegger, in Marblehead Township, Essex County, with 8 in the family; that Pennsylvania had a Conrad Wegner in Franklin County, a Joseph and 2 John Wegners in Lancaster County.

But the only WEGMANS listed in this census is Margaret Wegman, widow of Christopher Wegman, Jr., with 1 male over 16 years of age, 1 male under 16 years of age and 3 females, making

a total of 6 in the family, Moyamensing Township, Northern Liberties Town, Philadelphia County, Pa., Court Records and historical records reveal that this oldest son remained in Philadelphia, and it is from him that the stem that resided in the City of Philadelphia almost continuously to date, descended from; a few of his descendants having migrated to other states. During the Civil War, Chas. Wegmann served in Company "A" Missouri Cavalry and another one migrated to Louisanna where in 1878 John Xavier Wegmann was president of the Lafayette Fire Insurance Co., of New Orleans, and George J. Wegmann was the secretary of said Company. The writer has frequently met some of the Philadelphia Wegmans in the past 35 years, some being members of the Improved Order of Red Men. The youngest son of the widow Margaret Wegman, Christopher Wegman, 3rd, went to Germany on a visit to some relatives still in that Country, about 1800 and while there married and remained in Baden.

To whom the girls there married I have not been able to ascertain. I have further learned that John Wegman was the son of Frederick, who died at Valley Forge, that he was a widower in his later years and that his oldest daughter did the housekeeping for him. He resided near the forks of the Schuylkill River, 33 miles from Reading on the road to Shamokin, where he and his young children were cruelly murdered by the Indians, August 1780, and the eldest child or the housekeeper was carried off.

This act is mentioned in a number of histories but some accounts are misleading, because the name is misspelled, Montgomery refers to it in his History of Berks County, Volume 1, page 110, but spells the name Negman.

The preceding events are partly confirmed by family tradition, for frequently the writer's grandfather Lorenz B. Wegman in his later years, in the late 1800 and early 1900, related family events to the writer handed down from mouth to ear and some quoted from fly-leaves of family Bibles that he was a direct descendant from a Christopher Wegman, who was an Army Officer in the American War for Freedom. He also stated that a Wegman and his family were killed by the Indians during this war, somewhere near the Schuylkill River in Pennsylvania. He further related that this Army Officer has a son with the fathers name, (Christopher), who left a widow and children in Philadelphia, that one of these children, a son by the name of Christopher, 3rd, in his young days went to Germany to visit relatives still in that country and in Switzerland, and while on this visit fell in love with a German girl, whom he married and settled in Baden, Germany. From this union my father was born in 1803 and I remember that frequent reference was made to the Wegmans in Philadelphia, and that occasionally letters were received from the Wegmans in America. He further quoted that he is the son of Joseph and Madeline (nee Beck) Wegman, that he was born in Baden Germany, August 5, 1834.

He said that he had 2 brothers and 1 sister; that his oldest brother Henry came to America before we did and we never heard anything of him, my brother Anthony settled in Reading, my sister Sophie settled in Philadelphia, and I came over a little later, in 1858, and settled in Oley Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania, near Oley Line.

The writer has in the past 10 years received extracts from the family records from Susanna Wegman, Frauenfeld, Switzerland, who is direct descendant from the writer's great grandfather.

The writer has further learned from authentic records that Henry Wegman settled in Auburn, New York, where he became a Piano manufacturer, many of these pianos were sold in Berks County, from 1880 to 1920, and today there is one of these Pianos in the Knights of Golden Eagle Hall, at Friedensburg, where the Red Men meet and in which organization the writer is a district National Chief; one in Schwarzwald Church, at Jacksonwald, where many of the last four generations of the Wegmans were confirmed and some were and are now officers in the church council and another one in the Lodge Hall at Norristown, Montgomery County, Pa.

All of these Pianos have the name WEGMAN on the front in yellow letters. The writer recalls as a boy he seen the Wegman Pianos sold here, and has in his private library a picture of 748 Penn Street, Reading, now the Eagle Shoe Store, where in 1896 this sign was across the entire front of the building between the 2nd and 3rd floors: "WEGMAN PIANOS" picture in writers library, Volume 223, page 40-A, and about the same time Lichty's Music Store, 641 Penn Street, have an advertisement which read as follows: "The Wegman is one of the leading musical instruments in the world," this ad has pictures of the Wegman Pianos, with the name on as follows: WEGMAN & COMPANY, AUBURN, N.Y., as filed in Volume 223, page 152.

The Wegman Firm enlarged and were some of the first to manufacture the Self-Player Piano in which they had a very good trade before the birth of the Radio.

After considerable research work and correspondence since 1934, copies of this correspondence filed in my private library in Volume 349, I have learned that the Wegman Piano Company of Auburn, in 1922 merged with the Estay Piano Company of Rochester, New York, and that this combination sold all their interests to B. K. Settergren, in 1928, and is now operating under the name of Estay Piano Corporation, located at Bluffton, Indiana.

To further prove the foregoing statements, Charles H. Lichty, music dealer at 748 Penn St., Reading, Pa., on page 71 of a 134 page book, entitled, "Reading, its representative business men and its points of interest," advertises the WEGMAN PIANO in the year 1893, also on page 113, of the same book is advertised the firm of William H. Lender & Company, wholesale and retail grocers, 9th and Washington Sts., for whom the writer clerked from 1902 to 1912.

Frederick Wegmann, a son of Henry, the piano manufacturer, quoted as an American of German blood, in 1875, invented the roller grinder to grind wheat or make flour, thereby making a whiter flour and more flour from a bushel of wheat than could be obtained by stone grinding; as recorded in the Book of Knowledge, Volume 9, page 2717.

Another son of Henry Wegman was Edward Wegmann, who in his life time was a civil engineer and an author at Yonkers, N. Y.

And another son of Henry later located in Missouri, where his grandson, William M. Wegman and his wife Sarah J. (Boland) Wegman were both practicing physicians in the early 1900's.

Anthony Wegman, a brother to Henry signed his name on some papers Wagman, a grand-uncle to the writer, arrived in New York, May 20, 1854, and settled in Reading a few years later.

Anthony Wegman married Rosa Zimmerman and bought a home on Moss Alley, Reading, in 1863, as recorded in Deed Book No. 81, page 599, Berks County Records in the Court House, Reading, Pa.

He was naturalized October 6, 1863, at the age of 34 years he got his first papers, as recorded in the Naturalization Bureau of the Prothonotary's Office of Berks County, Pa.

Later and for many years he resided at 1008 Franklin Street, Reading, where he died in 1914 in his 89th year, the oldest citizen in the third ward.

Sophie Wegman, a sister to Henry, Anthony and Lorenz Wegman, married a Mr. Heckinger and settled in Philadelphia, her last residence having been 1310 North 27th Street.

A daughter by this union married a Mr. Impink and settled in Reading, and it is from this family that some of the local Impinks hail.

Lorenz B. Wegman, the compiler's grandfather, when a young man crossed the border of southern Germany into Switzerland, where he was a Swiss Cheese maker for a number of years.

He sailed from Havre, France, and landed in New York in 1858, where he did not tarry very long however, but came on to Reading to visit his brother Anthony.

After a short stay with his brother he procured work on a farm in Oley Township, near Oley Line, next to the Jacob Gechr farm.

It was on this Gechr farm that their hired girl Susanna Cox murdered her illegitimate child February 13, 1809, for which she was executed on the gallows June 10, 1809; being the 3rd woman to be hung in Berks County. Two women previously hanged for similar crimes in the County, Elizabeth Graul, March 10, 1759 and Catharine Krebs, December 19, 1767.

This is fully confirmed by Court Records in the Office of the Clerk of Quarter Sessions of Berks County and also by a full page article which was published in the North American, August 9, 1914, titled, "Romances of Pennsylvania History—Susanna Cox and the Gallows of Reading".

A complete copy of this article is filed in the compiler's private library, Volume No. 309.

After Lorenz B. Wegman worked on this farm for a short time he married the farmer's hired girl, Sarah Endy, the Endys are direct descendants of the Delaware Indians, and went to housekeeping in the farm's tenant house or as was customary to say in those days, the chief hired man's house or home, providing he was married or at housekeeping. It was here that their first child was born, the compiler's father William E. Wegman, in 1859; and the following other children were born to this union, Lawrence E., Joseph E., Levi E. and Daniel E. Wegman. Lorenz B. Wegman was naturalized October 16, 1868, he got his first papers at the age of 30 yrs. as recorded in the Naturalization Bureau of the Prothonotary's Office of Berks County, Pa.

In 1867 he left the Oley Valley and purchased his own farm, composed of 13 acres on Schwarzwald Hill, about one mile north of Jacksonwald, as recorded in Deed Book No. 88, page 59, in the Recorded of Deeds Office of Berks County, Pa.

This first purchase contained the buildings and became the original Wegman homestead, remaining in the hands of the Wegmans from 1867 to 1923; however the acreage was increased and decreased from time to time. In 1871, he purchased purpart No. 2, which contained 7 acres as recorded in Deed Book No. 141, page 146.

In 1876 he purchased purpart No. 3, containing 5 acres as recorded in Deed Book No. 141, page 147, this tract was sold off again in 1905, as recorded in Deed Book No. 303, page 599.

In 1882 he purchased purpart No. 4, containing 3 acres, 45 perches as recorded in Deed Book No. 170, page 536.

In 1906 he sold the entire farm to his son, the compiler's father, William E. Wegman, and in 1923 it passed into strange hands.

Lorenz B. Wegman bought a smaller home, after all his children had left home, in Alsace Township, on the Friedensburg Road, next to Ritter's Hotel in 1889, as recorded in Deed Book No. 186, page 512, where he resided until 1911, when he sold this small home and lived retired with his son Levi, where he died in 1914 in his 80th year. He was a widower at the time of his death, his wife Sarah (Endy) Wegman having passed away on Memorial Day, 1897.

Copies of all Wegman Deeds are filed in the writer's private library, in Volume 210.

Thus has been given all the data to date of the first Wegman's in America.

The writer is regularly corresponding with a number of the descendants of the Wegmans from Switzerland, who are located in New York City and a few in Rochester, New York, the most recent having arrived in this country only about 15 years ago.

The name WEGMAN has been conspicuous in Reading and Berks County for the past 65 years, first by the Wegman Piano signs on the musical instrument dealers stores; second, the Daniel E. Wegman milk dealer's wagons on the streets of Reading; third, the big sign on the front of Charles S. Wegman store, opposite the Post Office; fourth, the Walter Wegman fresh meats and dressed poultry trucks in all parts of Berks County.

In the Costume of an Indian Princess
The Regalia of Some of Her Early Ancestors



HELEN (WEGMAN) RICHARDSON

A Chief in the Degree of Pocahontas

Secretary of the Wegman Reunion

CHAPTER IV

The Generations of Jacob Wegman, the First Wegman in America

(Giving here only the direct progenitors of Lorenz Wegman)

JACOB WEGMAN, born at Strasbourg, Alsace, France in 1715, settled in Germantown, Phila., Pa., in 1743.

CHRISTOPHER WEGMAN, son of Jacob Wegman, born at Germantown, Phila., died at Phila., in 1781, a Lieutenant Colonel.

CHRISTOPHER WEGMAN, JR., son of Lieutenant Colonel Wegman, died in 1783, at Phila., Pa., a Captain in the Colonial Army. Margaret Wegman his widow died about 1795. Margaret and her 5 children were the only Wegmans in the United States in 1790, 2 boys and 3 girls.

CHRISTOPHER WEGMAN, 3rd, son of the widow Margaret born about 1776, went to Germany about 1800. His brother William Wegman born about 1774, remained in Phila., and is the progenitor of the Wegmans in Philadelphia today.

JOSEPH WEGMAN, son of Christopher Wegman, 3rd, was born at Baden, in 1803, he married Made-line Beck in 1824.

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(Children by this union)

HENRY WEGMAN, born at Baden, Germany in 1825, settled in Auburn, N.Y., and organized the Wegman Piano Co.

ANTHONY WEGMAN, born at Baden, Germany Feb. 4, 1826, settled in Reading, where he died Nov. 16, 1914.

SOPHIE WEGMAN, born at Baden, Germany in 1830, settled in Philadelphia, Pa.

LORENZ B. WEGMAN, born at Baden, Germany, August 5, 1834, settled in Oley Township, Berks Co., Pa., died Jan. 20, 1914.

Prologue to Wegman Piano Company or Henry Wegman Family

In a 134 page book published in 1893, titled, "Reading, its Representative Business Men and points of interest" on page 71 is printed the following: A picture of 748 Penn Street, a four story building, with two big signs on the front, CHARLES M. LICHTY between the 3rd and 4th floors and PIANOS & ORGANS between the 2nd and 3rd floors. This advertisement reads, "this well know business house at 748 Penn Street, was established by Mr. C. H. Lichty in 1883. Mr. Lichty represents the leading houses in the country, including Hardman, Wegman, Hallet & Davis pianos, and the Lawrence, Story & Clark, Clough & Warren, and Chicago Cottage organs".

In a 156 page book published in 1896, titled, "The City of Reading and vicinity and their resources", illustrated on page 40-A is a large picture of the store at 748 Penn Street, with a big sign on the front between the 2nd and 3rd floors, WEGMAN PIANOS.

On page 119 of the same book is quoted the following: "two of the sons of Mr. Lichty have inherited their father's love for music. Herbert, the oldest learning piano making in the celebrated Wegman Piano Factory and Luther learning organ building".

On page 152 of the same book is a picture of Lichty's new store at 641 Penn Street, to which he moved his business late in 1896 and the boys continued the business after his death. This page also shows a Wegman Piano with the name on it and the ad reads: "The Wegman Piano and the Lawrence Organ are leading instruments of the world".



HENRY WEGMAN FAMILY

Henry Wegman, born in Baden, Baden, Germany in 1825; settled in Auburn, New York, in 1847; where he manufactured various mechanical tools for some time and later organized the Wegman Piano Co.

He married -----

(Children by this union)

Frederick Wegman, the inventor of the roller grinder in 1875;

Edward Wegman, a civil engineer and author;

William Wegman, who located in Missouri.

(No complete records of this family to date)

ANTHONY WEGMAN FAMILY

Anthony Wegman, born in Baden, Baden, Germany, February 4, 1826; he settled in Reading about 1856. He married Rosa Zimmerman in 1857.

(Children by this union)

William Wegman, he and his wife both deceased, they had one son William Kendall Wegman, who is known by his grandfather's name, who raised him; William Kendall, William Kendall is a bar-clerk at 48-50 South 6th St., Reading, Pa.

Emma Wegman, married Harry N. Eisenbise, who died some years ago, they have one son, Harry Eisenbise, who resides at 725 Gordon Street, Reading, Pa.

Joseph Wegman, deceased.

Lizzie Wegman, who married a Mr. Berkert in Phila., both deceased.

John Wegman, who married Carrie-----
there are no children, they reside at 504 Moss Street, Reading, Pa.

Rose Wegman, who married John Schaufert, who died some years ago, they had one son, John Schaufert, who now conducts a hotel at the N. E. Cor 7th and Chestnut Sts., Reading, Pa.

Deaths Recorded

Anthony Wegman, died Nov. 16, 1914, at 1008 Franklin St., Reading, Pa., age, 88 years, 9 months and 12 days.

Rose E. (Zimmerman) Wegman, died March 25, 1926, at 1008 Franklin St., Reading, Pa., age, 87 years, 3 months and 13 days. She was born in Germany in 1839 and settled in Reading in 1853.

Emma C. (Wegman) Eisenbise, died Jan. 12, 1940. (This record not fully complete).

SOPHIA WEGMAN FAMILY

Sophia Wegman. born in Baden, Baden, Germany, in 1830; she settled in Phila., Pa., about 1859; she married a Mr. Heckler.

Many of the Berks County Impinks' hail from this family
(Record of this family not complete)

Prologue to the Lorenz (Lowrenz) B. Wegman Clan

Lorenz B. Wegman, married Sarah Endy, who was 6 feet tall, very muscular, large boned and a direct descendant from the Manatawny Indians.

That powerful Nation of Indians called the Delawares or Lenni Lenapes, (which means original people), inhabited New Jersey and the greater part of Pennsylvania. This Nation of Indians was divided into three Tribes, called, Unamis, or Turtle Tribe; Unalachtgo or Turkey Tribe; Wolf or Minsi Tribe. These Tribes were again sub-divided into Clans, and the Clans into Stems and Branches.

The Wolf Tribe extended over the southeastern part of Pennsylvania and included the Indians of Berks County, the Clan along the Manatawny River or Creek were the Manatawny Clan and inhabited what we know as the Oley Valley, Colebrookdale, Douglass, Earl, etc. Indians only had one name and no two were alike, the name was based on what attracted the attention of the mother at the birth of the child, or what event happened at that time, etc.

The Manatawny Indians had Popodickon as their Chief. The Indians remained in Oley Township and vicinity longer than in any other part of our county. Many of these Manatawny Indians remained long enough to become semi-civilized and finally christianized and many inter-married with the early settlers and partly changed their names according to the language taught to them at that time. Through these channels the Manatawny Indians have contributed much to the stature and language of the Berks County Dutch.

The following are pure Indian words: WEY-GAT (meaning, how are you), changed to Wegates; TU-WOK (meaning tobacco), changed to Du-wock; ALA-HEKA, (meaning the alder bush), was not changed at all; YEN-GEES, the Indians name for the English, is now used to designate our men over-seas as Yankees and many more words too numerous to mention here.

AN-TEE ANTY ENDE ENDY

The Indians used a sign language to a great extent, their writing was mostly Hieroglyphic or picture writing, generally cut on bark, wood or flat stone with a pointed stone and sometimes written with a sharp stick dipped in the juice of berries.

Historian, Daniel G. Brinton in his Indian history of the Lenni Lenape, their legends and symbols of the Walam Olum, (Walam Olum) means their painted score or record, quotes that a male papoose was born in Olink Hunting Grounds, (also written Wolink, Ole or Wahlo), to a Manatawny Squaw, who at the time of the child's birth noticed a yellow or copper tint, under the rays of the sun, on some of the Iron-Ore Rocks in that vicinity and she named him AN-TEE. (which means copper or copper colored), born in Corn Moon (September), about 1703.

As before stated an Indian child is first named from whatever incident first attracts the attention of the parent. This name may stick or may be changed when the child has earned a name, as a reward for some deed of valor, such as Sagamore, Sachem, Chief, etc.

It is further quoted that this Indian AN-Tee became christianized and married a white girl and therefore never changed his name, only as time changed the name as above set forth.

Elbridge S. Brooks in his history of the North American Indian, George W. Lindsay, Charles C. Conley, Charles H. Litchman and Thomas K. Donnalley in their Red Men hand books confirm the above facts.

The writer has searched the Indexes of the Histories of Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Russia, Spain, England, Ireland, Scotland and France and has not found any name like An-Tee, Anty, Ende or Endy from about 1000 B.C. to 1908 A.D.

The Pennsylvania Archives, Series 2, Volume 17 contains 30,000 names of immigrants from foreign countries to America, but no Endy.

In the 3rd Series of the Pennsylvania Archives, Vol. 18, page 299, under the registration of property by the inhabitants of Berks County for raising the supplies for the Colonial Army for 1779, is recorded as follows: Jacob Endy, 100 acres of land in West District Township, (this was then just recently taken from Oley Township to make a new Township, District), also 4 horses, 3 cows and a tax of 720 shillings. I have searched the United States Records of the first census in 1790 of the first 13 States and among the many thousands of names I find the following at that time.

John Anty, Earl Township, Berks County, 1 free white male of 16 years and upward, including the head of family, (which means John); 3 free white males under 16 years; 3 free white females, including the head of family, (this includes the mother or wife).

Philip Anty, same address with a wife and one daughter.

These are the only people listed in the entire United States in 1790, by the name of Endy although the spelling is changed, which some times happened in making the assessments or enumerations it appears that these two were the sons of Jacob Endy of 1779 above.

Calculating as per the usual rule 33 years in a generation, the past 7 generations of the Endys' and Wegmans' have been one half Indians, which is partly proved by the big bones, high cheek bones, tall and strong.

LORENZ B. WEGMAN FAMILY

Lorenz B. Wegman, born in Baden, Baden, Germany, August 5, 1834, he settled in Oley Township, near Oley Line in 1858; he married Sarah Endy, born in Oley Twp., Jan. 13, 1829.

(Children by this union)

William E. Wegman, born in Oley Township, November 21, 1859;

Joseph E. Wegman, born in Oley Township, May 29, 1861;

Lawrence E. Wegman, born in Oley Township, September 5, 1863;

Levi E. Wegman, born in Oley Township, August 8, 1866;

Daniel E. Wegman, born in Exeter Township, February 5, 1872.

*The William E. Wegman
Genealogical History
of the Lorenz B. Wegman Family*

DEATHS

Joseph E. Wegman, died April 24, 1866; (a son)

Sarah (Endy) Wegman, died May 30, 1897; (the mother)

Lorenz B. Wegman, died January 20, 1914; (the father)

Lawrence E. Wegman, died May 10, 1936; (a son)

Levi E. Wegman, died February 17, 1943; (a son)

*The William E. Wegman
Stem and Branches
of the Lorenz B. Wegman Clan*

WILLIAM E. WEGMAN FAMILY

William E. Wegman, born in Oley Township, November 21, 1850, he married Amanda Elizabeth A. Spohn in 1883, born at Spangs Forge, Oley Township, October 23, 1856.

(Children by this union)

Charles Samuel S. Wegman, born in Oley Township, near Yellow House, April 26, 1884;

Sallie Deborah S. Wegman, born in Amity Township, near Yellow House, April 21, 1886;

Annie Elnora S. Wegman, born in Amity Township, at Yellow House, November 20, 1887;

George Daniel E. Wegman, born in Exeter Township, on the Wegman homestead, July 9, 1889;

Jennie Mary S. Wegman, born in Exeter Township, Lorah Log Cabin, April 20, 1891;

William Endy S. Wegman, born in Oley Township, near Oley Line, April 6, 1893;
Amanda Elizabeth (Lizzie) S. Wegman, born in Exeter Township, Happel Farm, June 19, 1894;

Edna May S. Wegman, born in Exeter Township, Happel Farm, near Stonersville, November 21, 1896, (on her father's birthday);

Verna Stella S. Wegman, born in Exeter Township, on the Wegman homestead, February 25, 1901.

William E. Wegman, 2nd marriage to Mrs. Emma Knabb (widow), no children by this union, married March 3, 1917, Mrs. Knabb had 2 children by her former marriage, Fred and Irvin Knabb.

DEATHS

Annie Elnora S. Wegman, died December 23, 1888; (a daughter)

William Endy S. Wegman, died February 25, 1894; (a son)

Verna Stella S. Wegman, died June 24, 1901; (a daughter)

Sallie Deborah S. Wegman, died June 28, 1912; (a daughter)

Amanda Elizabeth A. (Spohn) Wegman, died December 22, 1913; (the mother)

CHARLES S. WEGMAN FAMILY

Charles S. Wegman, born in Oley Township, April 26, 1884, married Susan C. Haisch, born in Alsace Township, July 4, 1884, they were married May 2, 1906, by the Rev. F. K. Huntzinger.

(one child by this union)

Helen Marguerite Wegman, born at 36 Poplar St., Reading, Pa., March 17, 1907.

DEATHS

Susan (Sue) C. Wegman, died March 18, 1935, (the mother)

JENNIE MARY S. WEGMAN

HELEN MARGUERITE (WEGMAN) RICHARDSON FAMILY

Helen Marguerite Wegman, born at 36 Poplar Street, Reading, Pa., March 17, 1907, (St. Patrick's Day).

Married Elmer J. Richardson, August 4, 1928

(one child by this union)

Robert Charles Richardson, born at 1131 Oley Street, Reading, Pa., January 5, 1929.

DIVORCED

Helen W. Richardson from Elmer J. Richardson, February 5, 1945

LINDA MAY S. WEGMAN, LORAH FAMILY

GEORGE DANIEL S. WEGMAN (Single)

George Daniel S. Wegman, born in Exeter Township, July 9, 1889; is a veteran of World War I, he was gassed, which finally effected his mind and he was admitted to the Veterans' Hospital at Coatesville, Pa., where he is now an inmate to date. He was admitted June 29, 1935.

JENNIE MARY S. WEGMAN (Single)

Jennie Mary S. Wegman, born on the Lorah homestead in Exeter Township, April 20, 1891, is a trained nurse and is located in Phila. since 1916.

AMANDA ELIZABETH (LIZZIE) E. (WEGMAN) HERBST FAMILY

Amanda Elizabeth (Lizzie) S. Wegman, born in Exeter Township, June 19, 1894, married Alfred Michael Herbst, September 24, 1927, they reside in Philadelphia, Pa.

(No children by this union to date)

EDNA MAY S. (WEGMAN) GERTH FAMILY

Edna May S. Wegman, born in Exeter Township, November 21, 1896, on her father's birthday, married Raymond W. Gerth, December 26, 1915, by Rev. William Laub.

(Children by this union)

Frances Marie Gerth, born in Exeter Township, June 21, 1916;

Walter R. Gerth, born in Exeter Township, April 1, 1917;

Helen Viola Gerth, born in Exeter Township, February 5, 1919;

LeRoy Emil Gerth, born in Exeter Township, February 28, 1921;

Virginia Elizabeth Gerth, born in Exeter Township, January 17, 1924.

FRANCIS MARIE (GERTH) WELLER FAMILY

Francis Marie Gerth, married to Ray Weller, March 1937, by Rev. William Laub.

WALTER R. GERTH FAMILY

Walter R. Gerth, married to Anna Koch, November 7, 1936, by Rev. Laub;

(Children by this union)

Nancy Ann Gerth, born April 16, 1937;

Kenneth Walter Gerth, born July 16, 1939.

HELEN VIOLA (GERTH) BILLITZ FAMILY

Helen Viola Gerth, married to Julius Billitz, January 6, 1940, by Rev. Ischinger.

*The Lawrence E. Wegman
Stem and Branches
of the Lorenz B. Wegman Clan*

LAWRENCE E. WEGMAN FAMILY

Lawrence E. Wegman, born in Exeter Township, September 5, 1863, married Mary B. Ammarell, January 12, 1889, who was born in Bern Township, November 30, 1870.

(Children by this union)

Annie Deborah Wegman, born in Muhlenberg Township, July 17, 1889;

Katie May Wegman, born in Muhlenberg Township, October 30, 1892;

Harry Wegman, born in Muhlenberg Township, May 14, 1896;

John Wegman, born in Muhlenberg Township, November 17, 1902.

DEATHS

Mary B. (Ammarell) Wegman, died December 24, 1929, (the mother)

Lawrence E. Wegman, died May 10, 1936, (the father)

ANNIE DEBORAH (WEGMAN) EBLING FAMILY

Annie Deborah Wegman, married Jacob Ebling, January 21, 1911;

(one child by this union)

Dorothy Ebling, born in Muhlenberg Township, February 6, 1913.

DEATHS

Annie Deborah (Wegman) Ebling, died February 13, 1913, (the mother)

Dorothy Ebling, died September 13, 1920, (the daughter)

KATIE MAY (WEGMAN) BECKER FAMILY

Katie May Wegman, married Charles Irvin Becker, March 22, 1919, who was born in Muhlenberg Township, February 13, 1893.

(one child by this union)

Harry Irvin Becker, born at Temple, October 1, 1925

HARRY WEGMAN FAMILY

Harry Wegman, married Emma Seiders -----

JOHN WEGMAN FAMILY

John Wegman, married Beulah Naomi Schlappich, September 25, 1925, who was born January 9, 1889.

(one child by this union)

Betty Jane Wegman, born in Muhlenberg Township, April 16, 1926

*The Levi E. Wegman
Stem and Branches
of the Lorenz B. Wegman Clan*

LEVI E. WEGMAN FAMILY

Levi E. Wegman, born in Oley Township, August 8, 1866, married Hettie Moyer, born November 29, 1866, they were married February 19, 1887.

(Children by this union)

William M. Wegman, born April 17, 1888;

Sallie M. Wegman, born October 16, 1889;

Henry M. Wegman, born March 28, 1891;

Ella H. Wegman, born December 12, 1892;

Walter M. Wegman, born June 25, 1895;

Daniel M. Wegman, born February 25, 1898;

Clara M. Wegman, born January 15, 1900;

Emma M. Wegman, born May 26, 1902.

Levi E. Wegman, 2nd marriage to Emma F. Fisher (widow) of William Fisher and sister to Rev. F. K. Huntzinger, they were married April 16, 1922.

(No children by this union)

DEATHS

Hettie (Moyer) Wegman, died October 18, 1920 (the mother)

Levi E. Wegman, died February 17, 1943 (the father)

WILLIAM M. WEGMAN FAMILY

William M. Wegman, married Sarah Knabb, August 9, 1913

(children by this union)

Helen Wegman, born September 20, 1914;

Mary Wegman, born February 20, 1916.

William M. Wegman, 2nd marriage to Charlotte Wanner, September 25, 1937

(No children by this union to date)

DEATHS

Sarah (Knabb) Wegman----- (the mother)

HELEN (WEGMAN) ANGSTADT FAMILY

Helen Wegman, married Russell W. Angstadt-----

(children by this union)

Twin sons, born August ----- 1945

MARY (WEGMAN) BAUER FAMILY

Mary Wegman, married Edward Bauer-----

(No children by this union to date)

DANIEL M. WEGMAN

Son of Levi E. Wegman, still a single man to date.

SALLIE M. (WEGMAN) BIEBER FAMILY

Sallie M. Wegman, married Charles O. K. Bieber, September 4, 1915. Charles was born May 13, 1885.

(children by this union)

Esther Margaret Bieber, born August 12, 1916;

Florence Alva Bieber, born July 25, 1918;

Bertha Grace Bieber, born December 25, 1920;

Mary Ella Bieber, born October 11, 1922;

Charles Russell Bieber, born November 23, 1924;

Infant son born December 13, 1929, died December 14, 1929;

Sallie Anna Bieber, born June 21, 1931.

ESTHER MARGARET (BIEBER) KLINE FAMILY

Esther Margaret Bieber, married Edwin Leroy Kline, September 25, 1937

(2 children by this union)

Janet Elaine Kline, born February 2, 1938;

Earl William Kline, born -----

BERTHA GRACE (BIEBER) BREININGER FAMILY

Bertha Grace Bieber, married Leroy Breininger-----

(children by this union)

Allen Tud Breininger, born December 27, 1942.

MARY ELLA (BIEBER) WENTZEL FAMILY

Mary Ella Bieber, married Robert I. Wentzel-----

(No children by this union to date)

HENRY M. WEGMAN FAMILY

Henry M. Wegman, married Laura Hoffman October 13, 1913

(Children by this union)

Earl H. Wegman, born September 19, 1913;

Edna H. Wegman, born September 20, 1914;

Leon H. Wegman, born December 18, 1916;

Mabel H. Wegman, born April 5, 1918;

Raymond H. Wegman, born April 3, 1920;

Eva H. Wegman, born February 13, 1922;

Paul H. Wegman, born November 17, 1923;

Erma H. Wegman, born January 26, 1926;

LeRoy H. Wegman, born December 28, 1927.

DEATHS

Earl H. Wegman, died June 12, 1915 (a son)

LeRoy H. Wegman, died May 15, 1928 (a son)

Laura (Hoffman) Wegman, died August 1, 1930 (the mother)

MABEL H. (WEGMAN) McCOY FAMILY

Mabel H. Wegman, married Archibald McCoy, April 28, 1935

(Children by this union)

Archibald Wilson McCoy, born January 17, 1939;

Shirley Marie McCoy, born August 30, 1942.

LEON H. WEGMAN FAMILY

Leon H. Wegman, married Charlotte (Lottie) Keehn (Keon), Feb. 21, 1937

(children by this union)

Harry Wegman, born May 27, 1938;

Jeanette Wegman, born November 18, 1939;

Mary Jane Wegman, born January 13, 1945, died March 28, 1945.

RAYMOND H. WEGMAN FAMILY

Raymond H. Wegman, married Annie Wanshop October 4, 1941

(children by this union)

Patricia Ann Wegman, born July 27, 1941;

Donald Bruce Wegman, born February 4, 1943;

Raymond Barry Wegman, born August 23, 1944.

EDNA H. (WEGMAN) BRODMAN FAMILY

Edna H. Wegman, married William Brodman January 2, 1943

(children by this union)

Elizabeth Ann Brodman, born August 17, 1939.

ERMA H. (WEGMAN) McCOY FAMILY

Erma H. Wegman, married-----McCoy August 26, 1944

(No children by this union to date)

ELLA M. (WEGMAN) BREITEGAM FAMILY

Ella M. Wegman, married Paul Breitegam September 18, 1920

(children by this union)

Paul Breitegam, Jr., born January 18, 1917 (by a former marriage)

Ruthe Breitegam, born June 12, 1924;

May Breitegam, born May 1, 1927;

Herbert Breitegam, born June 23, 1929;

Jean Breitegam, born June 24, 1931;

Dorothy Breitegam, born February 3, 1934.

PAUL BREITEGAM, JR. FAMILY

Paul Breitegam, Jr., married Helen Reichert-----

(one child by this union)

Lawrence Breitegam, born -----

RUTH (BREITEGAM) MOYER FAMILY

Ruth Breitegam, married Donald Moyer March 24, 1945

(No children by this union to date)

WALTER M. WEGMAN FAMILY

Walter M. Wegman, married Carrie C. Mertz February 26, 1916.

(children by this union)

Myron Wegman, born October 3, 1916;

Robert Wegman, born April 4, 1919;

Sylvanus Wegman, born March 12, 1921;

Ruth Wegman, born July 12, 1923;

Levi Wegman, born March 19, 1925;

Harold Wegman, born June 24, 1927;

May Wegman, born March 6, 1929;

Daniel Wegman, born January 30, 1931.

MYRON WEGMAN FAMILY

Myron Wegman, married Arlene Redcay November 19, 1938, she
was born January 19, 1919.

(children by this union)

Ruth Elaine Wegman, born January 10, 1941;

Nancy Jean Wegman, born June 19, 1943.

SYLVANUS WEGMAN FAMILY

Sylvanus Wegman, married LaRue Hinkle February 8, 1941, she
was born March 12, 1922.

(children by this union)

William Richard Wegman, born May 19, 1941;

Ronald Sylvanus Wegman, born November 27, 1942

ROBERT S. WEGMAN FAMILY

Robert S. Wegman, married Helen M. Neiman March 29, 1941

(children by this union)

Robert S. Wegman, Jr., September 5, 1941;

Barry Lee Wegman, born March 26, 1944.

RUTH (WEGMAN) HOUP FAMILY

Ruth Wegman, married Lawrence Houp, March 23, 1946

(No children to date)

LEVI M. WEGMAN FAMILY

Levi Martin Wegman, married Bettye Arlene Stitzer May 18, 1946

(No children to date)

CLARA M. (WEGMAN) KNABB FAMILY

Clara M. Wegman, married Ernest E. Knabb May 11, 1929, he was
born October 30, 1902.

(children by this union)

Jane Marie Knabb, born March 7, 1931;

Richard Ernest Knabb, born May 26, 1933.

EMMA M. (WEGMAN) RAPP FAMILY

Emma M. Wegman, married Irwin D. Rapp March 27, 1926

(children by this union)

Alice Louise Rapp, born July 15, 1928;

Curtis W. Rapp, born July 4, 1931;

Shirley Ann Rapp, born February 20, 1933;

Sylvia May Rapp, born May 14, 1937.

DEATHS

Irvin D. Rapp, died June 14, 1942 (the father)

*The Daniel E. Wegman
Stem and Branches
of the Lorenz B. Wegman Clan*

DANIEL E. WEGMAN FAMILY

Daniel E. Wegman, married Lillie M. Madeira January 18, 1902.

(Children by this union)

Annie L. Wegman, born June 9, 1903;

Mable M. Wegman, born October 27, 1905;

Edna S. Wegman, born January 26, 1907;

Grace I. Wegman, born August 1, 1908.

DEATHS

Edna S. Wegman, died January 4, 1924.

ANNIE L. (WEGMAN) LESSIG FAMILY

Annie L. Wegman, married William S. Lessig April 25, 1924

(One child by this union)

Mary Ann Lessig, born February 2, 1925.

MABEL M. (WEGMAN) BORTZ FAMILY

Mabel M. Wegman, married Charles Bortz, January 13, 1923

(children by this union)

Arthur Bortz, born February 19, 1924;

May Bortz, born May 20, 1927;

Ray Bortz, born September 30, 1930;

Charles Bortz, Jr., born January 15, 1932;

Donald Bortz, born November 20, 1938.

MAY (BORTZ) MILLER FAMILY

May Bortz, married Thomas Miller, September 10, 1944

(one child by this union)

Thomas I. Miller, Jr., born December 20, 1944.

ARTHUR BORTZ FAMILY

Arthur Bortz, married Marie Demand, June 2, 1945.

(No children to date)

GRACE I. (WEGMAN) HOFFMAN FAMILY

Grace I. Wegman, married Lawrence B. Hoffman, March 31, 1945

(No children to date)



Wegman Honor Roll

World War II

Levi Wegman, Army Signal Corps in the South Pacific

Arthur Bortz, Amphibious Force, in European Theatre of War

Harold Wegman, Sampson Field, New York, Naval Training Station

Owen Bieber, Camp Wheeler, Georgia

Florence Bieber, T/S with the United States Marines

Leroy Breining, Corporal with the American Air Force in Europe

Robert I. Wentzel, Baker 1st Class, in the United States Navy

Walter Gerth, United States Marines on the West Coast

Leroy Gerth, Armored Division in Germany

In Memoriam

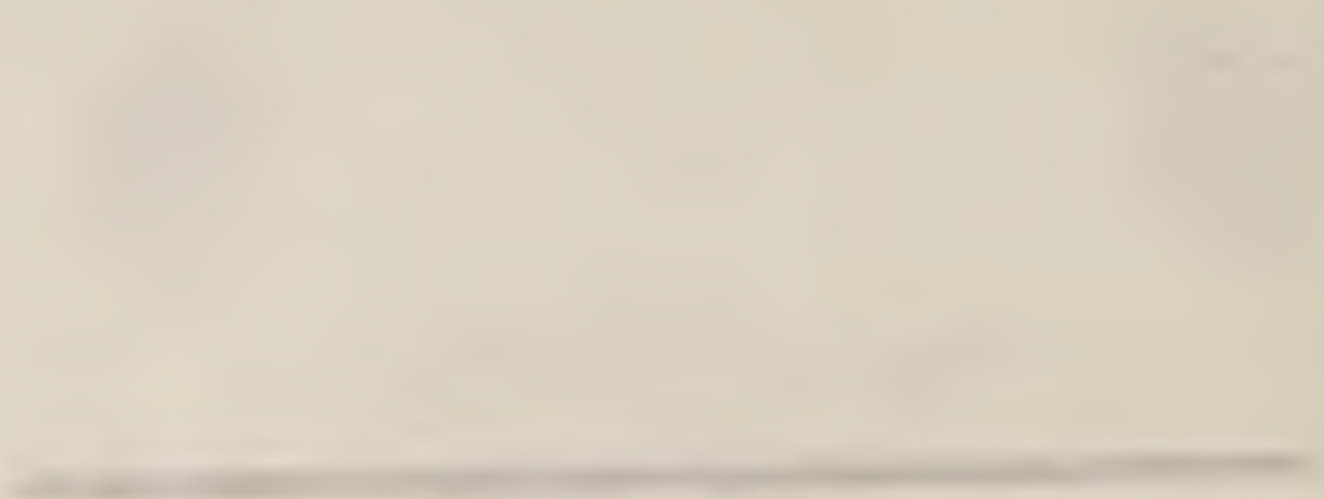
NAMES OF THE MEMBERS WHO PASSED AWAY SINCE THE
WEGMAN REUNION WAS ORGANIZED

Emma C. (Wegman) Eisenbise, died January 12, 1940

Levi E. Wegman, died February 17, 1943

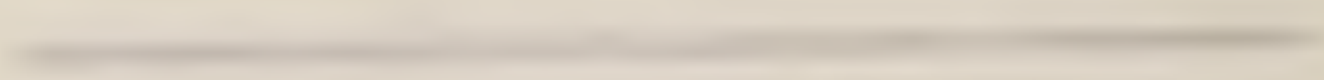
Mary Jane Wegman, died March 28, 1945

Irwin D. Rapp, died June 14, 1942



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WALTER M. WEGMAN, President of the Wegman Reunion
Greeting the Historian CHARLES S. WEGMAN
At the 5th Annual Reunion, the latter dressed in the costume of
his early ancestors.

CHRONOLOGY OF THE WEGMAN REUNIONS

First reunion held at the Estate of Daniel E. Wegman, 625 Water Street, Temple, Berks County, Pa., September 4, 1938.

Charles S. Wegman acted as temporary chairman until the following officers were elected:—

President	-----	Walter M. Wegman
Vice President	-----	Katie (Wegman) Becker
Secretary	-----	Grace I. Wegman
Treasurer	-----	Carrie (Mertz) Wegman
Historian	-----	Charles S. Wegman

65 members present

The Second Annual reunion was held at the Estate of Daniel E. Wegman, 625 Water Street, Temple, Pa., September 3, 1939.

Officers elected:—

President	-----	Irwin D. Rapp
Vice President	-----	Katie (Wegman) Becker
Secretary	-----	Grace I. Wegman
Treasurer	-----	Carrie (Mertz) Wegman
Historian	-----	Charles S. Wegman

67 members present

A Semi-Annual reunion was held at the Estate of Paul Breitegam, known as "Spring Hill Farm", located near New Jerusalem, Berks County, Pa., July 4, 1939—59 members present and July 4, 1940, 54 present.

The Third Annual reunion was held at the residences of John Wegman and Charles Becker, 771 and 773 Mt. Laurel Avenue, Temple, Pa., Sept. 8, 1940.

Officers elected:—

President	-----	John Wegman
Vice President	-----	Katie (Wegman) Becker
Secretary	-----	Helen (Wegman) Richardson
Treasurer	-----	Carrie (Mertz) Wegman
Historian	-----	Charles S. Wegman

72 members were present

The Fourth Annual Reunion was held at the Estate of Daniel E. Wegman, 625
Water Street, Temple, Pa., September 7, 1941.

Officers elected:—

President ----- Walter M. Wegman
Vice President ----- Katie Becker
Secretary ----- Helen W. Richardson
Treasurer ----- Carrie C. Wegman
Historian ----- Charles S. Wegman

53 members were present

The Fifth Annual reunion was held at the Estate of Daniel E. Wegman, 625
Water Street, Temple, Pa., August 16, 1942.

Officers elected:—

President ----- Walter M. Wegman
Vice President ----- John Wegman
Secretary ----- Helen W. Richardson
Treasurer ----- Carrie C. Wegman
Chairman of Entertainment Committee
Clara Knabb
Historian ----- Charles S. Wegman

77 members and a few guests were present. Rev. William O. Laub was present
all day and took part in the exercises. Charles S. Wegman, appeared in
Indian costume and entertained.

No reunions were held during the years 1943-1944 owing to the war.

The Sixth Annual reunion was held at the Estate of Daniel E. Wegman, 625
Water Street, Temple, Pa., August 19, 1945.

Officers elected as follows:—

President ----- Walter M. Wegman
Vice President ----- John Wegman
Secretary ----- Helen W. Richardson
Treasurer ----- Carrie C. Wegman
Historian ----- Charles S. Wegman (for life)
Chairman of Entertainment Committee
Esther Kline
Co-Chairman of Entertainment Committee
Lawrence B. Hoffman

(The chairman to select 3 more members for the committee and the co-chairman
2 more members, making a committee of 7 members).

91 members and 12 visitors present

ADDITIONAL BIRTHS

(These blanks are provided to keep your records up to date after book is printed)

